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REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 5-8 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narusawa in view of Herwig. Claims 3-4 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narusawa in view of Herwig and further in view of Zhu.

Narusawa discloses a multifunction printer including a USB hub. The printer is a photograph printer. The multifunction printer may further include an image scanner for scanning photographs.

Herwig discloses a wiring hub for a retail terminal which facilitates power and data connections in a way that minimizes total wiring. Peripherals, such as a receipt printer and barcode reader have data connections to the retail terminal through the through the wiring hub and also receive power through the wiring hub.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no teaching or suggestion in either reference to replace the photograph printer of Narusawa with a receipt printer or replace the photograph scanner of Narusawa with a barcode reader.

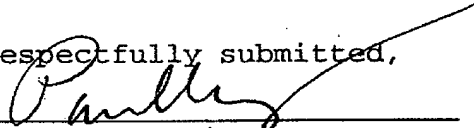
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Narusawa and Herwig disclose competing alternatives. Narusawa suggests placing a hub in the housing of the multifunction printer. Herwig discloses that a hub be separately housed from peripherals. Therefore, one skilled in the art would be motivated against the proposed combination of Herwig with Narusawa.

Applicants have noted the prior art of record but not relied upon.

Applicants respectfully request that the pending claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,


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